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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/769,036	01/24/2001	Bea Calo	1991-00301	5934
7590 09/22/2005				
ROBERT GRAY CONLEY, ROSE & TAYON, P.C. P.O. Box 3267 Houston, TX 77253-3267		EXAMINER CHARLES, DEBRA F		
		ART UNIT 3624 PAPER NUMBER		

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/769,036

Applicant(s)

CALO ET AL.

Examiner

Debra F. Charles

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,6-8,11-13,21,22,24-26,29-31 and 34-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,6-8,11-13,21,22,24-26,29-31 and 34-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 June 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/21/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 1,2,5,9,10,14-20,23,27-28,32-33 and 44-45 have been cancelled. Claims 3,6,11,12,13,21,26, 31 and 40 have been amended. The amended drawings 1-18 have been received and are accepted.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3,4,6-8,11-13,21,22,24-26,29-31 and 34-43 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 31, 34,38, 39, 40, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sibley, Jr. (U.S.PAT. 4677552A).

Re claims 31, 39 and 40: Sibley, Jr. disclose a computerized system for trading securities and commodities(Abstract, claim 1, Figs. 1-10, cols. 1-2 and col. 3, lines 1-35, col. 5, line 45-col. 6, line 25),

comprising:

a first computerized introducing affiliate in a first country suitable for accepting a transaction order from a customer, and transmitting said transaction order electronically(col. 1, line 45-col. 2, line 15),

said transaction order being for the handling of a security or

commodity(Abstract, i.e. bids and offers are transaction orders);

a second computerized introducing affiliate in a second country(col. 1, line 45-col. 2, line 15);

an exchange on which said security or commodity is traded(col. 1, line 60-67, i.e. central exchange host);

a global hub connected between said first introducing affiliate and said second introducing affiliate, said global hub for electronically routing said transaction order from said introducing affiliate to said exchange(col. 2, line 15-55).

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Re claim 38: Sibley, Jr. disclose comprising a computerized executing affiliate in a second country suitable for electronically receiving said transaction order, said global hub connected between said first introducing affiliate and said executing affiliate, said global hub suitable to route electronically said transaction order to said executing affiliate(col. 1, line 45-col. 2, line 55).

Re claim 34: Sibley, Jr. disclose comprising a second introducing affiliate in a second country, said second introducing affiliate being suitable for accepting a transaction order from a second customer, and transmitting said transaction order electronically(Abstract, i.e. plurality of user computer terminals are capable of accepting transaction orders for bids and offers).

Re claim 41: Sibley, Jr. disclose said second computerized system connects to said plurality of stock exchanges in a hub and spoke configuration(Fig. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3, 4,5, 6,7, 9, 11,13, 26, 29,42 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner et al.(US5424938A) and Hawkins et al.(U. S. PAT. 6029146A).

Re claims 3, 4, 6 ,7, 9, 11,13, 26, 29, 42 and 43: Wagner et al. disclose(s) a computerized system for trading securities and commodities with a computerized introducing affiliate in a first country suitable for accepting a transaction order from a customer and transmitting said transaction order electronically, said transaction order being for the handling of a security or commodity; an exchange on which said security or commodity is traded; a computerized executing affiliate in a second country suitable for electronically receiving said transaction order and executing said transaction order on the exchange; and a global hub between said introducing affiliate and said executing affiliate, wherein said global hub electronically

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routes said transaction order from said introducing affiliate to said executing affiliate; (Abstract, col. 2, line 20-col. 3, line 67, Figs. 1-12, claims 1,2,16),

Wagner et al. disclose the invention except wherein said transaction order is to sell an equity, and said executing affiliate electronically transmits proceeds from said sale of said equity to said global hub.

However, in col. 6, lines 15-45, col. 13, lines 45-col. 14, line 55, col. 15, lines 30-45, col. 18, lines 55-60 thereof, Hawkins et al. disclose(s) buy and sell orders, that exclude customer account information, and payments for those orders via wire, the payments and netting of those payments is the proceeds of the sale; wherein said first computerized system maintains a customer account in a first currency and said security or commodity trades on a stock exchange in a second currency, and wherein said second computerized system converts said first currency to said second currency to purchase said security or commodity. Further, Hawkins et al. disclose executing the trade in a different currency from the original initiating broker country currency. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to

modify the invention of Wagner et al. based on the teachings of Hawkins et al. The motivation to combine these references is to efficiently and effectively match an investor's equity order with an executing broker's match confirmation, but will be compatible with existing financial network standards.

7. Claims 8, 12 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner et al. and Hawkins et al. as applied to claims 7 and 11 above, and further in view of Harada et al.

Re claims 8,12 and 30: Sibley, Jr. and Hawkins et al. disclose(s) the claimed invention except said first affiliate maintains an account for said customer in a first currency and prior to transmitting said currency to said executing affiliate, a check is made of said account to ensure said account holds an amount greater than said amount of said purchase of said equity. And global hub is connected to a foreign exchange rate information source and a foreign exchange rate bank, said global hub sending said first currency to said foreign exchange rate bank and receiving in return said second currency.

However, in the Abstract, para. 0051, 0078, claim 11 thereof, Harada et al. disclose checking the account to ensure there is sufficient funds before executing a transaction, and dynamically determining the currency exchange rate via an outside information source. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Sibley, Jr. and Hawkins et al. based on the teachings of Harada et al. The motivation to combine these references is to efficiently and effectively ensure sufficient funds availability before proceeding with the transaction.

8. Claims 21-22 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al. and Harada et al.

Re claim 21: Hawkins et al. disclose a method of buying a security or commodity (Abstract, col. 15, lines 30-45, Fig. 7, 16, 17), comprising the acts of:

accepting an electronic transaction order from a first customer in a first country to purchase a stock for a first amount, said stock being

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available on a first financial exchange(Fig.4, item 101, 7, item 122, 16, item 430, 17, 22, 23, col. 4, lines 45-65, i.e. executing broker receives the order);

purchasing said stock on said first financial exchange(Fig. 14, item 840),

electronically transmitting proceeds from said sale of said stock from said first financial exchange to said customer account (col. 13, lines 45-col. 14, line 55, col. 15, lines 30-45, col. 18, lines 55-60, i.e. wire is the payment transmission method).

Hawkins et al. disclose(s) the claimed invention except checking an account balance in a customer account for said first customer to determine if said customer account balance is at least equal to said first amount; electronically transmitting said transaction order to the first financial exchange via a global hub where said customer account balance is at least said first amount, said global hub being electronically connected to at least a second financial exchange and said first financial exchange; deleting a second amount from said customer account via the global hub. And said second amount correlates to said first amount. However, in the Abstract, para. 0051,

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0078, claim 11, Fig. 1, item 114 thereof, Harada et al. disclose checking the account to ensure there is sufficient funds before executing a transaction, and dynamically determining the currency exchange rate via an outside information source. Further, Harada et al. disclose debiting the customer's account for an amount in the second currency and executing the trade in a different currency from the original initiating broker country currency. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Hawkins et al. based on the teachings of Harada et al. The motivation to combine these references is to efficiently and effectively ensure sufficient funds availability before proceeding with the transaction in a different currency from the one in the customer's home country.

Re claim 22: Hawkins et al. disclose said first financial exchange is in a second country(Fig. 4).

Re claim 24: Hawkins et al. disclose said step of selling said stock includes said global hub electronically transmitting said transaction order to an executing affiliate that sells said stock on first exchange(col. 8, lines 10-31).

Re claim 25: Hawkins et al. disclose said executing affiliate is in a second country(col. 8, lines 10-31).

9. Claims 35, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al.

Re claims 35, 36 and 37: Hawkins et al. disclose transaction order is associated with a customer account upon generation of said transaction order, said customer account being adjusted by an amount at least equal to said price for said purchase. And the amount of said adjusted is based on a price for said security or commodity, and an exchange rate between a first currency and a second currency. And method includes an executing broker that executes said transaction order, said executing broker also being suitable to act as an introducing broker for the generation of a transaction order(Fig. 3,4,7, 13, item 608, col. 6, lines 25-45, col. 14, lines 10-55, col. 18, lines 55-60, col. 20, lines 60-col. 21, lines 5).

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Hawkins et al. does not explicitly disclose encumbrance. However, wire instructions in the finance art effectively put a hold on the amount in the customer's account to be transferred via wire. Thus, it would have been obvious to one with an ordinary level of skill in the art to employ an encumbrance technique to get the benefit of reserving funds in the customer's account to cover the amount of the transaction until the customer funds have been transferred.

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be

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calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Debra F. Charles whose telephone number is (571) 272 6791. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5 Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent A. Millin can be reached on (571) 272 6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Debra F. Charles
Examiner
Art Unit 3624

VINCENT MILLIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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